

TAKE A BOW – OR TWO BLOOMINGTON SCHOOLS’ PAIR WIN HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

DINNA WADE-ARDLEY, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL Equity for Bloomington Schools and the Thomas Jefferson High School Diversity Committee were each honored with the 2004 Omar Bonderud Award at the City Council’s first meeting in December.

The Omar Bonderud Award recognizes individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to ensuring the rights of people in the community. Omar Bonderud was the first chair of the Bloomington Human Rights Commission, formed in 1968.

For more information, call 952-563-8733, TTY 952-563-8740, or visit the www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Bonderud.

Since she began as a teacher in the Bloomington School District in 1992, **Dinna Wade-Ardley** has taught co-workers about respect, tolerance, cultural understanding and diversity. Her emphasis on family involvement and collaborative efforts with community agencies plus her tireless efforts to lead Bloomington schools to embrace and appreciate our differences made her an ideal candidate for the award.



Students, faculty and representatives from community organizations on the **Jefferson High School Diversity Committee** are committed to making the school an environment in which all students feel respected and valued. The committee has facilitated many multicultural activities, including an annual Diversity Day event, that have helped the student body and faculty become more aware of the value of diversity.

COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS BLOOMINGTON TAKES HOME THE GOLD

THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON COLLECTED EIGHT AWARDS FOR ITS COMMUNICATIONS efforts from local and national organizations this year. Four of the awards paid tribute to the grand opening events for Bloomington Civic Plaza. The honors included:

City-County Communications and Marketing Association
Silver Circle Award: Bloomington Civic Plaza Debut

League of Minnesota Cities
City Achievement Communications Award: *Briefing* and *Insider* makeover

National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors
Third Place: “Bloomington Today: Year in Review 2003” cable program

Minnesota Association of Government Communicators
Award of Excellence: Bloomington Civic Plaza Debut
Award of Merit: Internal periodicals
Award of Merit: “Only on Cable” public service announcement

Association for Women in Communications – Twin Cities Chapter
Award of Merit: Bloomington Civic Plaza Debut

International Association of Business Communicators - District 4
Award of Merit: Bloomington Civic Plaza Debut

For more information, contact Diann Kirby, Communications Administrator, at 952-563-8818.



**Bloomington Civic Plaza
Grand Opening**

PROGRAMS FOR YOU

CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER IS located at 9801 Penn Avenue South. For more information on programs, activities and services, call the Human Services Information Line at 952-563-4957 V/TTY or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Creekside.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASSES

AARP’s defensive driving classes are offered on a monthly basis at Creekside. Cost is \$10. To register, call the Information Line.

GET TO KNOW US

Start the New Year off with a “Get Acquainted with Creekside” gathering and receive the latest information about the many programs, activities and opportunities for seniors. Upcoming meetings will be held **Wednesday, January 5 and February 2, from 10 - 11 a.m.**

NEED A SPACE FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT?

Why not hold your next special event at Creekside? Rooms are available for rent at reasonable rates. The facility features a kitchen, auditorium, classrooms, audio-visual equipment and a catering menu.

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Human Services provides assistance for families in need. For more information, call Denise Royer, Alissa Smith or Jackie Doncavage at Creekside.

Working through issues

Support teams are made up of individuals who can help you identify your goals. If you are a Bloomington family with children under 18 years of age and are working with multiple complex issues including housing, school or employment, you are eligible for assistance through the support team process.

Furniture referrals

Lower income families who are in need of basic furniture may be eligible to receive these items through the nonprofit organization Bridging, Inc. Those with limited furniture due to a fire or domestic abuse situation may also be eligible.

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS AT CREEKSIDE

The Bloomington senior program’s **Holiday Music Show** will be held on **Tuesday, December 21, at 1:15 p.m.**, in the **Schneider Theater** at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, and features performances by the Bloomingtons, Crickets and Renegades. Tickets are \$3.



Find that special, one-of-a-kind gift at the **Creekside Boutique**. Merchandise includes hand-crocheted and knitted items, quilts and afghans, dolls, doll clothes and furniture, and holiday decorations and ornaments. Holiday hours are **Monday-Friday, from 10 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.**, **Tuesdays, from 6 - 8 p.m.**, and **Saturdays, from 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**



Invite your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors to the annual **Holiday Tea and Storytime** on **Wednesday, December 22, at 9:15 a.m.**, at **Creekside**. This free program is sponsored by Human Services and Friends of the Oxboro Library.

Visit the **Creekside Buyer’s Club** for all of your holiday baking needs. The Buyer’s Club carries nuts, dried fruits, coconut, granola, oatmeal, bran, wild rice, honey, pure maple syrup and more. Hours are **Thursdays, from 9 - 11:15 a.m. and 12:45 - 1:30 p.m.**